

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
AND
THE MINISTRY OF HOUSING OF THE KINGDOM OF SPAIN
ON
COLLABORATION IN ORGANIZING A SOLAR DECATHLON IN EUROPE**

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is a non-binding expression of intent between the Department of Energy of the United States of America (DOE) and the Ministry of Housing of the Kingdom of Spain (the “Housing Ministry”) to collaborate in the development of a successful solar decathlon competition event in Europe. The DOE and Housing Ministry may be referred to individually as a “Participant” and together as the “Participants.”

WHEREAS, the Governments of the United States of America and the Kingdom of Spain have a common goal in fostering sustainable economic development while encouraging the use of reliable energy sources;

WHEREAS, DOE’s Solar Decathlon is an international competition designed to promote the design of houses that are energy efficient and self-reliant in energy usage;

WHEREAS, the Technical University of Madrid has participated in two editions of the Solar Decathlon (2005 and 2007) in the United States and found the experience to be richly rewarding, not only for the new relationships built with the other participating universities, but also as an opportunity for further investigation in the field which benefited all involved;

WHEREAS, the Government of Spain, through the Housing Ministry has declared its interest in holding a similar Solar Decathlon event in Europe that will integrate unique local and regional characteristics while utilizing the same philosophy, principles, and models now in place in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the DOE as the founder, designer and organizer of Solar Decathlon, possesses the experience and know-how necessary to organize a “Solar Decathlon Europe” to take place in Spain and intends to collaborate with the Housing Ministry in this endeavor.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Participants have reached the following understanding:

ARTICLE 1

Objective

The objective of this MOU is to establish a framework for collaboration between the Participants regarding the organization of a European edition of the Solar Decathlon to take place in Spain.

The Participants intend to collaborate on the basis of mutual benefit and a free and reciprocal exchange of information on all aspects necessary to ensure a successful Solar Decathlon competition.

ARTICLE 2

Collaborative Agreements

The DOE gives its permission to the Housing Ministry to use the term “Solar Decathlon” for the “Solar Decathlon Europe” event.

The first “Solar Decathlon Europe” is expected to take place in 2010, with a call for applicants in 2008.

Any further editions of “Solar Decathlon Europe” are expected to take place in a different year than the Solar Decathlon in the United States.

Exchange of information may include, but is not limited to, rules, scoring, judging, officiating, safety, site selection and team selection.

ARTICLE 3

Management and Funding

To ensure effective implementation and oversight of this MOU, the Participants intend to establish an Oversight Committee consisting of up to six members, with each Participant nominating up to three individuals to serve on this body.

The Oversight Committee should provide periodic reports to the Participants on progress and plans, including a final report summarizing the success of the first European event. Final approval of plans and activities, and any future plans for subsequent competitions developed by the Oversight Committee, are the responsibility of the Participants.

Except as may otherwise be agreed in writing, all costs resulting from cooperation under this MOU are the responsibility of the Participant that incurs the cost.

ARTICLE 4

Commencement, Modification, and Termination

Cooperation under this MOU may commence upon signature and continue for five years. The MOU may be modified at any time by mutual determination of the Participants in writing. If either Participant desires to end its cooperation under this MOU, it should endeavor to provide 120 days advance written notice to the other Participant.

Signed in duplicate.

**FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY OF THE UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA:**

**FOR THE MINISTRY OF HOUSING
OF THE KINGDOM OF SPAIN:**

Date: _____
Place: _____

Date: _____
Place: _____